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Demographic processes in tashkent in the late XIX and early XXI centuries

Yuldasheva Shakhnoza¹

¹Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan E-mail: shaxnoza.yuldasheva.2019@bk.ru

ABSTRACT

The article focuses on the structure of the city of Tashkent over the past 150 years, the administrative-territorial structure, the dynamics of population growth, demographic processes and factors influencing them, the national composition of the population.

Key words: Tashkent, gates, districts, population, urbanization, demography, migration, statistics.

1. INTRODUCTION

Historical sources contain important references to the recent history of Tashkent, the capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the country's largest industrial, transport and cultural centre. K. Miller, who was in Tashkent in 1838–1839, came to Tashkent in 1813–1814. With a dirt wall 4 versts long (4.2672 km) and a width of about 2 sadzhen (304–352 or 426, 72 cm) in height. F. Nazarov says it is surrounded by a 15-verst (16.4 km) long cotton wall. According to A.Dobrosmyslov, in the second half of the XIX century, the circumference of the city wall was 24 versts (25.6032 km). According to M. Pospelov, who was in Tashkent in 1800, at the end of the 18th century, after repair work carried out by Yunus-Khoja, Tashkent was 26 feet high (7.9248 m), 6 feet thick (1.8288 m) and 3 feet high (0.9144 m), and the area of the city is 26.4 km²[1].

The work "Tarixi jadidayi Tashkant" notes that Tashkent is used not only as a city but also as an administrative unit, which covers a large area as a region and includes several cities, villages and districts. Mohammed Salihkhoja points out that its territory is located approximately from the beginning to the end of the Saihun River. Elsewhere, the author defines the eastern boundary of Tashkent with the Kurama Mountains, noting that the territory of Tashkent includes lands from the Syr Darya (north) to christian lands, to China and Gulja in China [3].

2. MAIN PART

At the beginning of the XIX century, there were 12 gates of the defensive wall. The city is entered through Labzak and Kashgar gates in the north-east, Kokand and Kaitmas gates, Beshegoch gates in the east, Kamalon gates in the south-east, Samarkand gates in the south, Kokcha gates, Cigatay, Sagbon, Karasaray in the west and wooden gates in the north. Roads leading from the city gate led to Chorsu, the city centre [7]. During this period Tashkent was administratively divided into 4 parts – Kokcha, Beshyogoch, Shaikhantakhur and Sebzor. Beklarbegi ruled the city through these four governors, i.e. commanders. The regions, in turn, were divided into mahallahs. Each district had an appointed elder of influential people who gained prestige in society. At the same time, some local hussars united several mahallahs. There was a common mosque, a cemetery, a madrassah, a market mill, a teahouse, a workshop, food and fruit shops in *Guzars*. There are 11 *Guzars* in Tashkent, 6 in Beshyogoch, 3 in Sebzor, 1 in Kokcha and 1 in Shaikhantakhur.

Four districts of the city have a unique border. The Labzak Canal, which crossed Tashkent from southwest to northeast and joined Bozsuv, divided the city into two parts. The centre of the Labzak Canal passed through Chorsu. The second border, which crossed the city from north to south, i.e. Beshegoh, also passed through Chorsu. Thus, four dahas had their borders [5].

When in 1930 the city of Tashkent was renamed the capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan, it became much more difficult to manage the districts because of the city and the rise of various structures. For this reason, two more districts were created in Tashkent in 1936 (i.e. in September) [11]. The first was named after Kirov, one of the representatives of the October Revolution in Russia, which never happened in Tashkent, while the second was named after Frunze. A military man who fought against the Soviet regime in central Uzbekistan with the help of his military headquarters and led the massacre and destruction in Bukhara.

During the Second World War, the Central and Moscow districts were formed in connection with the relocation of many industrial enterprises, educational institutions and cultural establishments to Tashkent [12].

In 1939, the first master plan for the reconstruction of Tashkent was developed. According to him, the city expanded to the north-east and south-west (the general plan was revised several times in the post-war years). According to the master plan, the construction of many dwelling houses, public buildings, children's and medical institutions began. The scheme of transport materials was developed, gardens, parks and artificial lakes were built. In 1939, the territory of Tashkent was 90 km² with a population of 556,000 people. In October 1943, Tashkent was included in the category of cities of the republic. In 1946, the territory of Tashkent significantly expanded, reaching 130 km².

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, new multi-storey residential and industrial zones began to be built. In 1956 (May) the Moscow and Stalin districts were abolished and in 1959 (March) the Central district. Their territories were annexed to other districts. Kashninsky, Karasuvsky and Tashkent districts were transferred to the city. [11] In 1961 they were again included in Tashkent region.

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In connection with the expansion of construction of residential buildings, population growth (up to 1 million people), a new district of Chilanzar district was created in Tashkent in December 1963.

After the earthquake in Tashkent in 1966, as a result of the construction of large residential areas, the city included the expansion of industrial zones, part of the territory of Kibrai and Kashni districts of Tashkent region. In 1967 Sergeliy, in January 1968 Hamza and in December 1970 Sabir Rakhimov (since 2011 Almazar district) districts were formed. To ensure equal distribution of enterprises, as well as cultural and consumer services, the boundaries of urban areas were revised and supplemented [9]. Akmal Ikramov district was founded in September 1977 (Uchtepinsky district since 2005), and Bektemirsky district - in April 1990 [8].

After the Republic of Uzbekistan gained independence, as in the country as a whole, attention was paid to modernizing the administrative and territorial division of Tashkent. First of all, the city districts were renamed. In May 1992, Kirov district was renamed into Yunusabad, Kuibishev district - Mirzo-Ulugbek, Lenin district - Mirabad, Oktyabrsky district - Shaikhantakhur, and Frunze district - Yakkasaray. On May 6, 2005, a decision was made to rename Akmal into Ikramov district of Uchtepe district.

The total area of modern Tashkent city today makes 334,48 km and is administratively divided into 11 districts [13].

Before the census of 1897 little was known about Tashkent population. In particular, even if important data on births, deaths, natural growth and migration were available, they were closed to the general public. In 1924, the then Turkestan Economic Council published its annual statistical publication. According to this annual publication, 100,000 people lived in Tashkent in 1865.

The most reliable data on the population of Tashkent were first registered in the 1897 census. According to the data published in 1910, the population of Tashkent at that time was 156.4 thousand people. In the urban population, men comprised 54.1 per cent and women 45.9 per cent, i.e. 848 women per 1,000 men. The proportion of women in the total population was gradually increasing. At present, the rate is almost equal.

It is known that urbanization, women's education and employment rates lead to a certain decline in fertility and natural population growth. This demographic situation is particularly characteristic of large and medium cities. Tashkent is no exception [14].

Tashkent is administratively divided into eleven districts formed in different years. The largest districts in terms of population are Yunusabad, Mirzo-Ulugbek, Sabir Rakhimov (now Almazar district), each of which has over 250,000 inhabitants. Bektemir, Yakkasaray and Mirabad are the smallest districts.

The population of Tashkent is very diverse. About 100 nationalities and ethnic groups live here. This diversity of peoples has long been a characteristic feature of Tashkent.

The majority of the population are ethnic Uzbeks. Its share in the total population is constantly growing. If this indicator was 34.4% at the end of 1959 census, it was 44.2% at the end of 1989 census. The natural growth of population per 1000 people in Tashkent in 1960 was 19.3 people.

Since the 1990s, population growth in Tashkent has slowed down and even declined in a few years. In 1989, the urban population was 102.1 thousand people, while in 1991, the absolute growth of the population was 55 thousand people.

It is known that in most regions the number of women in the population exceeds the number of men. The city of Tashkent is no exception. But here the difference in the ratio of men to women in the total population is insignificant. In particular, in the 1979 census, women made up 51.9%, while in 2004 they made up 50.1%. According to statistics for 2015, in the largest districts of Tashkent, in Almazar district, where the majority of Uzbeks live, and in Shaykhantakhur district there are fewer men than women; in Shaykhantakhur the number of women is 51.9 per cent, men 49.1 per cent, and in Almazar 50.7 per cent, men 48.3 per cent [4].

According to statistics of 2005, the location of Uzbeks in urban areas is different. The largest number of Uzbeks was in the Shaykhantakhur region and the lowest number was in the Mirabad region.

Three-quarters of the Uzbeks living in Tashkent live in Almazar, Shaykhantakhur, Yunusabad and Uchtepe districts.

A comparative analysis of the proportion of young people in the population of Uzbekistan and Tashkent shows that the birth rate in the capital is slightly lower. In particular, children and adolescents (0-16 years old) account for 37.4 per cent of the total population of the Republic, while in Tashkent this figure is 27.4 per cent. The share of elderly people (women over 55 years old and men over 60 years old) is 7% in the country and 11.7% in the city.

The administrative and territorial units within Tashkent differ in terms of the total population, natural growth, ethnic composition and migration. In particular, in the structure, high growth rates are observed in Almazor (1.54 per cent) and Shaikhantakhur (1.48 per cent) districts, where most ethnic groups live. The lowest rates are in the Mirabad (0.6%) and Yakkasaray (0.5%) districts, where ethnic minorities are lacking [9].

At the beginning of 2012, the permanent population of Tashkent reached 2,206,300 people. Of these, 50.8% are women and 4.2% are men. In terms of population, Tashkent ranks fourth among CIS countries (after Moscow, Kyiv and St. Petersburg).

3. **CONCLUSION**

The city is home to over 100 nationalities and ethnic groups. According to the statistics of 2013, the

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population of Tashkent is 2 million 350 thousand people. Tashkent is one of the world's leading cities by population.

According to statistics for 2014, the largest number of Uzbeks in the administrative districts of the city is in Almazar district, and the lowest number is in Bektemir district. In particular, the population of Tashkent during this period amounted to 2 million 3528.96 thousand people, in 2015 - 2 million 3712.69 thousand people, in 2017 - 2 million 4241.46 thousand people, and in 2018 - 2 million 4649.33 thousand people. As of 1 January 2019, it was 2 million 5099.69 persons.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the sources on the recent history of Tashkent, the capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan, contain many facts about the administrative and territorial structure of Tashkent, the structure of the population, migration, and their dynamic and comparative analysis is important to highlight the demographic processes in the city.

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